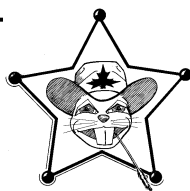


BEAVER



CHATTER

The Newsletter of the Prairie Beaver Regional Group of the British North America Philatelic Society, Ltd.

Chairman: **George Dresser** Treasurer: Editor: **Vic Willson**

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STAMP LIFE IN PANDEMIC TIMES

The plus in this year of waste and loss has been for philately the Zoom meeting. In BNAPS many of the regional groups and study groups have been holding regular meetings. The ones I participate in mostly are the Large and Small Queen and Pence and Cents study groups. Some of the significant advantages over face-to-face meetings include being able to see material in great detail as it is presented, opportunities to ask questions or comment during a presentation when all can see what is being mentioned, and the continuity of regular meetings over what were only annual meetings in addition to the newsletters that sometimes appear only sporadically. As an editor of one I depend on study group members for material, which only comes in after prodding. That has been reasonably good for the newsletter I currently edit but was a total failure for another I volunteered to start.

Our BCSC local stamp club lost half the regular members when we were forced to end face-to-face meetings in favor of Zoom meetings, partly due to computer-illiteracy, disinterest when material for trade or sale was no longer available, poor connectivity, or disinterest in what was being presented. No real meetings may have irrevocably damaged some clubs in future as members drift to other interests.

I think Zoom-type meetings will become a permanent aspect of BNAPS study groups given their success to date. These lessen the emphasis on study group meetings at the annual convention, perhaps freeing up time for different activities. See below for the new virtual format this year

BNAPLEX 2021- A VIRTUAL CONVENTION

BNAPS will not hold a live convention this year, scheduled for Winnipeg. An issue with a planned hotel venue led to cancellation of the contract, at a cost of \$5000 unfortunately. The local group was quite small, and potential COVID restrictions both played into the decision as well.

There will be a series of ZOOM meetings, a virtual exhibition competition, and dealers who will be online during the meeting period. While not formally announced yet it will be over Labor Day. As judge coordinator for the Society I have been involved with setting up the procedures for judging, which will in general conform to the APS guidelines recently developed. Exhibits will have to be sent as jpegs by the end of July under current draft requirements. No more than 160 frames will be accepted, with up to 20 single-frame exhibits, again in draft decision. Announcement of the show and procedures should be out by late March.

Here are some virtual exhibition links:

<https://www.ausvipex2020.com.au/exhibits/>

<https://stampssa.africa/exhibits/#savpex>

<https://netbul.co.il/en/%D7%93%D7%A3-%D7%94%D7%91%D7%99%D7%AA-english/>

Please keep John (Jeff) Furlong in your thoughts and prayers as he fights a serious illness



EARLY EDWARD COVER TO CHINA- George Dresser

A cover recently acquired George from Bill Longley and previously in the Ron Brigham Edward VII collection and subsequent Brigham auction. If anyone can read the indistinct cancellations, your help will be appreciated.

Rate: 5¢ ≤ ½ oz. + 5¢ registration fee, 10¢

Posted: Toronto, October 13, 1903

Received: Chicago, October 15,

transited: San Francisco, October 19, received Hong Kong Nov. 22, Heung Shan, Province of Kwangtung (Guangdong) "tombstone" receiver, not readable

Marked: "unknown" and returned to Hong Kong, December 10, received: San Francisco, January 16, 1904



THE CIRCULAR AND PRINTED MATTER RATES TO THE UK 1868-1879- Vic Willson

Circulars to the United Kingdom have an interesting history. Prior to the April 1, 1868 general rate changes, they were listed at 2¢ each, weight I assume being considered low. They were differentiated from printed circulars, which apparently could be other types of information and advertising and would have to go at bookpost rates, which were higher. In George Arfken's Canada's Small Queen Era- 1870-1897 he notes that prices current continued at the 2¢ rate through 1875, regardless of weight. At that point they became part of the bookpost rate at 2¢ per oz. On Jan. 1, 1877 the rate changed again for all bookpost to 2¢ per 2 ozs. That rate remained in effect when on Aug. 1, 1878, when Canada joined the UPU. It dropped to 1¢ per 2 ozs. on Apr. 1, 1879. Cunard rate added 2¢ to each oz. Thus, there are several short periods for circulars and printed circulars in the 11 year period 1868-1879, listed below in a table. Examples of two of the rates are shown below. I have not seen or recorded the other two rates, and I request members send a note or pics of either for our benefit.

Table of Circular and Printed Circular rates to UK 18868-1879

Period	Prices Current Rate	Printed Circular Rate	Note
April 1, 1868 - Dec. 31, 1875	2¢@	2¢ per oz.	pre UPU
Jan. 1, 1876 - Dec. 31, 1876	2¢ per oz	2¢ per oz.	pre-UPU
Jan. 1, 1877 - July 31, 1878	2¢ per 2 ozs.	2¢ per 2 ozs.	pre UPU
Aug. 1, 1878 - Mar. 31, 1879	2¢ per 2 ozs.	2¢ per 2 ozs.	UPU
Apr. 1, 1879 - Sep. 30, 1921	1¢ per 2 ozs.	1¢ per 2 ozs.	UPU

Fig. 1: Example of 2¢@ circular rate
Montreal Sep. 29, 1871, to Poole, England

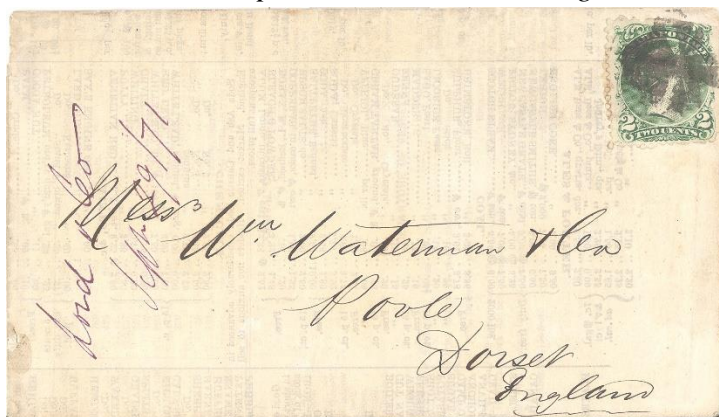
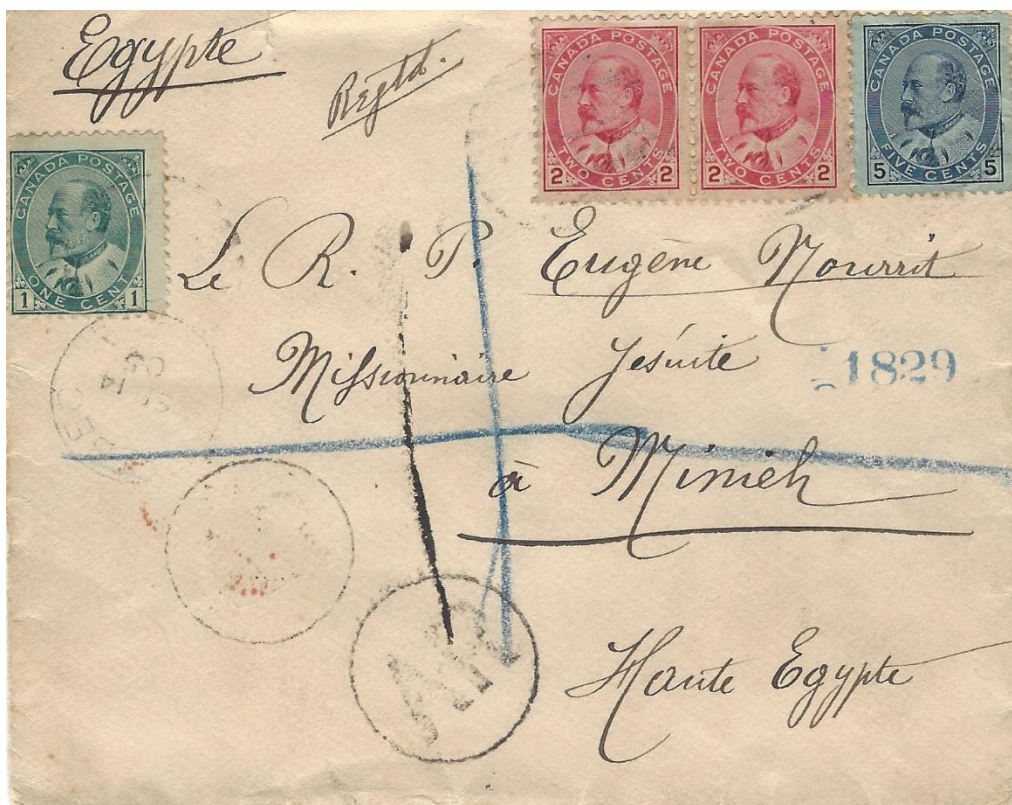


Fig. 2: Example of 2¢ per 2 ozs. 1877-rate Montreal
Aug. 27, 1877, to Poole, England



AR COVER TO EGYPT- George Dresser



Posted: Quebec, September 14, 1905
Received: Minieh, (Minya) Egypt, November 1905
Rate: 5¢ ≤ ½ oz. + 5¢ registration fee, + 5¢ AR fee paid in cash.

The UPU Treaty of Washington, January 1, 1899, provided that for Acknowledgement of Receipt, the envelope was stamped "AR," the stamp paying the AR fee placed on the AR form, and the AR form be returned from the destination office to the origination office by registered mail. The UPU Treaty of Rome, October 1, 1907, provided that the AR form be returned by ordinary mail.

This cover, purchased from postal history dealer Bill Longley, is the only Edward VII era cover with the AR handstamp on the cover that he could locate. (If you have an Edward VII Era AR cover, George would appreciate a scan.). This cover was previously in the John Cooper exhibit: King Edward VII Era Destinations from Canada.

DOMESTIC TRIPLE-RATE COVERS PAID WITH THREE 3d STAMPS 1851-1859 – Vic Willson

I acquired a triple domestic Pence cover recently and looked for other examples in my library, as Firby's 1983 listing noted only 5 examples. After an email to Wayne Smith, we came up with six examples without additional registration and two more with registration. My new example is shown below, item 2. All registration



was paid cash. There are about the same number of the rate paid with 3d and 6d, as well as a few shortpaid covers and a couple in the Decimal period with 6d and 5¢ combination.

The cover shown in Fig. 1 has a single and pair, all four border stamps, much to my pleasant surprise as the ebay picture was not very good.

Arthur was originally called Maitland Hills, according to Wikipedia, but was created in January 1854 with creation of Wellington county. It is

Fig. 1: Triple rate domestic Pence cover Toronto Dec. 12, 1854, to Arthur, Ontario

unincorporated and did not have a post office as far as I can determine, thus the listing of Mount Forest, a few miles to the northwest

Cover	Date	Registration?	Provenance/Source	Laid or Wove Paper	Imperf or Perforated
1	June 22, 1851	NO	Lubke, Wilkinson	Laid	Imperf
2	Dec. 12, 1854	NO	Willson	Wove	"
3	Aug. 22, 1857	NO	Lea, Wilkinson	"	"
4	Sep. 16, 1857	NO	Foxbridge	"	"
5	Aug. 24, 1858	YES	Nickle	"	"
6	Oct. 25, 1858	YES	Wayne Smith	"	"
7	Jan. 23, 1860	NO	Wayne Smith	"	
8	June 23, 1860	NO	Wayne Smith	"	

CANADA TO BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY- Vic Willson

This is one of the destinations I really never thought I would see in my UPU rate collection post-July 1, 1979, when Canada moved from the pound/oz. to kilogram system. Posting date is Nov. 21, 1979, from Kamloops, BC, to Diego Garcia, a major US naval base. Uninhabited historically except as a fishing spot in the Chagos Archipelago of similarly



uninhabited atolls and islands, it was owned by the British after the conclusion of the Napoleonic Wars and was used as a coconut plantation under direction of Mauritius. The British detached it in 1965 to form the BIOT so they could contract it to the US. Workers and retired were removed without recourse. The UN moved that the Archipelago be returned to independent Mauritius, also ruled by the International Court in Hague- ignored by both the UK and the US. Their agreement runs

through 2036 at present.

The cover made it to Mauritius as the backstamps attest. Clearly there was no way to get it to a US base except through the US APO system. There is an accompanying Toronto Post Office note that it does not have a listing for Diego Garcia. Jim Miller was a stamp dealer at the time. Hmmm



RECONSTRUCTING THE BOTHWELL WATERMARK ON THE 12½ ¢ LARGE QUEEN OF 1868- Vic Willson

Below is my attempt to date to reconstruct the watermark as shown below. While not certain, it appears the letters were at the bottom of each sheet, but this has not been confirmed. The sheets must have been asymmetric as no sideways letters have ever been seen for any of the stamp values that were printed on the paper, which include the ½¢, 1¢ red, 2¢, 3¢, 6¢, 12½¢, and 15¢. I have reconstructions in progress for the 1¢, 2¢, and 3¢. They are found upside down, upright, forward, and backward, looking at the back of the stamp. I do not plan to try to build each version, so the stamps below are of any of the four arrangements. Not a cheap activity in any case, nor particularly easy to find.



Beaver Chatter is the unofficial newsletter of a bunch of BNAPS members who, through no fault of their own, happen to live in the state of Texas. Opinions expressed are those of the authors who like to put their thoughts, philatelically or otherwise, into writing. Unless noted, articles are the effort of the Editor. Distribution is free to BNAPS members in the area who find it worth their while to participate in the group's activities, to certain BNAPS officials, and to whoever strikes the Editor's fancy. Newsletters are available to editors of other publications who wish to exchange samples of their labors. Articles, opinions, and general BS are solicited for publication by anyone who cares to write, and contributors will be rewarded with a complimentary copy of *Beaver Chatter*. Submissions can be sent to Vic Willson, P.O. Box 10026, College Station TX 77842 or emailed to lloydwill@aol.com or v-willson@tamu.edu